



# Walworth County Genealogical Society



Volume 29 Issue 2

ISSN - 1008-5765

March-April 2020

**Mission Statement**-The WCGS was organized for the purpose of bringing together family researchers who can network together and promote preservation of heirlooms and documents. Our goal is to help others find their ancestors, to educate them about genealogy, to copy cemeteries in the area and to stimulate interest in the county and genealogy.

In the event a meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, we will post a message on the website [www.walworthcgs.com](http://www.walworthcgs.com) or call 262-723-9150.

**Membership Dues are owed for 2020, the amounts due are listed on the last page of this newsletter, thank you!**

**REMINDER**-If you have any knowledge of the names of cemetery sextons in our area, please let us know, we are trying to gather a listing for reference, thank you. Send to [wcgsec@gmail.com](mailto:wcgsec@gmail.com).

## **Spring 2020 Meetings**

The May and June Group Meetings for WCGS have been cancelled. Notices were sent to all members via email and Facebook, but if you know someone that doesn't have Facebook or email, please let them know.

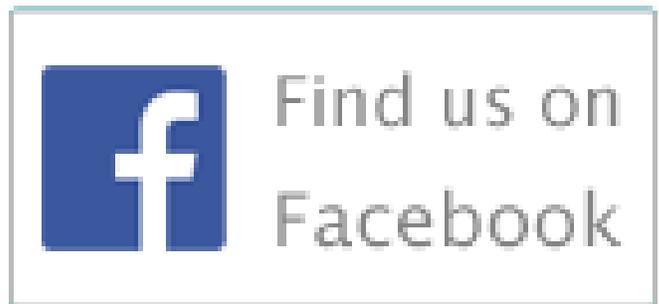
Hope to see you all in July!



## IN THIS ISSUE



President Comments.....	Pg 2
Library Page .....	Pg 3
Around the County Tidbits .....	Pg 4



[www.facebook.com/wcwgcs](http://www.facebook.com/wcwgcs)

## From the President's Desk



Karen Weston—President WCGS

I hope this letter finds all of our members and their families in good health. Living through Covid-19 probably makes we genealogists reflect on other epidemics and illnesses our ancestors lived through. I remember figuring out that my grandmother was pregnant with my father during the 1918 flu epidemic and my mother-in-law talked often about missing school when one or more of her eight siblings was quarantined for some communicable disease. What memories of or family records about illnesses have affected your family's history?

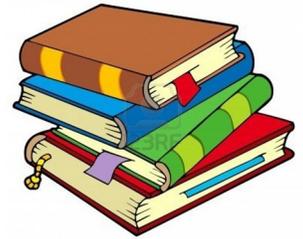
After consultation, I am canceling the May and June meetings of the society. Hopefully, we will be able to have the June board meeting and plan for the rest of the year. If board members have access to Zoom or Go-To-Meeting, please let me know; perhaps we can meet that way.

I had expected to start this letter with a report on the 2020 WSGS Genearama and the Genealogy Guys. Of course, it was canceled. However, WSGS has already scheduled the 2021 conference for Manitowoc and will try to get the Genealogy Guys next year. The fall conference will be in Wisconsin Rapids and Lori Bessler of WHS will be doing a pre-conference.

Many of you are probably home with children or grandchildren. I am spending the stay-at-home order at my daughter's watching my ten-month-old grand-daughter while her parents work. Several genealogical sites are providing resources for helping our children and grandchildren learn about their ancestors while at home. The New England Historic Genealogical Society has a page entitled: **Fun Family History Activities for Kids - Genealogy for the next generation** at <https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/read/youth>, which has several projects of interest. The Vita Brevis of 31 March 2020 has suggestions for parents with kids at home. If you are a WSGS member, you'll want to check the monthly email for more ideas.

Finally, try writing up your experiences during the Covid-19 epidemic. Our personal impressions will be history for our descendants!

## WCGS Library Page



I hope everyone is safe, well, staying home as much as possible, and working on genealogy! WCGS Library has been closed because of the corona virus (Covid-19) since Matheson Memorial Library closed in March. We will consider reopening once **the** Matheson is open again **and we no longer have to stay at home.** The safety of our volunteers is our most important consideration because we work so closely with visitors. Check our Facebook account <https://www.facebook.com/wcwg> or our website at <http://walworthcgs.com/> for opening dates.

### 2019 Library Report

2019 was a busy year for the WCGS Library. We were open 10-3 Tuesdays and until 7 on the third Tuesday, and 10-2 on the third Saturday of each month. We were staffed by library committee members and other great volunteers. 201 visitors signed in at the library. There may have been more or some who didn't sign in. We also had several email, phone, and mail requests for help. Visitors and requests for research were from Walworth County and several other Wisconsin locations as well as other states. 79 donated and purchased 79 items were added to our collection. Donations included the Silver Books donated to our library by the Wisconsin Mayflower Society and the 1907 Atlas of Walworth County. We also received collections from families of current and former members which we are sorting and filing in family binders. The highlight of the year was on April 16, when Dr. William Hopkins, Governor of Wisconsin Society of Mayflower Descendants, presented a 24-volume set of *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations "Silver Books"* to WCGS library. These volumes have been used many times to research Mayflower ancestors."

Thank you so much to all the volunteers who staffed the library and helped with projects and staffed the library through the year.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Rockwell

If you would be interested in volunteering for projects or to help at the library contact one of the library committee members:

Diana Bird 815-943-3690-leave message if no answer [birddiana1@gmail.com](mailto:birddiana1@gmail.com)

Marilyn Traver- [msearchin@gmail.com](mailto:msearchin@gmail.com)

Judy Rockwell- [jjrockwell@gmail.com](mailto:jjrockwell@gmail.com)



## AROUND THE COUNTY TIDBITS

by Shirley Sisk

**Walworth Happenings** – Will Potter has a fine new meat market and is doing a good business.-----  
 -----Horse blankets, men’s duck coats, canvas leggings and most all kinds of rubber footwear can be found at Jackson & Jackson Co’s store at reasonable prices-----The frame of the passenger depot was raised last week and the large water tank is nearly completed.-----Will Coon, our tax collector, will have his office in Jackson’s store this season.-----Born, to Mrs. Walter McNally, a ten pound baby girl, Nov. 22, 1900.-----  
 -----Joe Topping was down last Friday to set up a new coal stove for Frank Sutherland.-----Aden Kaye had the misfortune to get his hand into one of those savage corn huskers last Thursday, and will have to have it amputated.-----Chas. Tobiasson, one of Walworth’s good carpenters, left Monday for a long trip across the ocean to Guttenburgh, Sweeden, to visit his parents and sister, whom he has not seen for nine years. He expects to return in the spring. -----( Shirley’s note: All spellings are as printed in the newspaper). (The Delavan Enterprise, Thursday, Nov. 29, 1900)

**Geneva Lake** – Deputy Sheriff Durkee drew a revolver on a window curtain last Sunday night, about midnight, commanding it not to move an inch. He thought he had discovered a robber in his chamber.-----Rev. A. A. Hoskin, pastor of the M. E. Church, preached his farewell sermon last Sunday. He is in Milwaukee under treatment for his shattered health.-----Mr. Hicks, who has been for some time very sick, is now recovering.-----Ioan Sloan, of Fort Scott, late of Geneva, is back again on a visit to his parents and---the boys, of course. He looks as though he had been working hard.-----Horatio Seymour died Tuesday, Sept. 24th, aged 43 years and Simon Gardner died on Friday last, aged 65 years. (The Delavan Enterprise, Oct. 3, 1878)

**Fontana** – Guy Baker is getting the foundation ready for a new house on South Water street.-----  
 ---Little Jessie Deline, a boy 9 or 10 years old,

caught an 8 pound pickerel last week Monday.-----  
 -----Mr. Schroeder, of Harvard, has exchanged homes with Mrs. Hawver and moved his family here on Saturday. He is a stone mason by trade.--  
 -----Cyrus Ward was a caller here Monday on his way to see his mother, who is working at Dewight Hatch’s. She is just getting up from quite a hard attack of congestion of the lungs.-----  
 ----Quite a little interest is shown over the possibility of having a physician here in our midst. There is some talk of Dr. DeHund, of Waukesha, coming here to practice, but there is nothing definite as yet—he is undecided between Darien and here. (unknown paper from March 1898)

**Comments from Shirley** – My very first column was back in Jan.-Feb.- of 2005 called “Township Tidbits”. I divided the county into four sections and each column was on a different section, such as the SE corner of the county. Then I soon realized that some places like Williams Bay and Allens Grove were not townships, so I changed the title to “Around the County Tidbits” in the May-June 2009 issue, so as to cover all locations. That’s over 15 years of tidbits! I looked tidbit up in the dictionary and it said a tidbit is a very pleasing bit of news. (or food) This will be my last “new” column but there’s an idea to maybe “recycle” some of my older columns from the past. Next year I’ll be 90, notice the word “next”—I’m not there yet! So maybe I will be laughing at my recycled columns along with you all. It’s been such fun reading old newspapers over the years and sharing tidbits from them. Some of the language they used and some items that we wouldn’t even want to put in a newspaper nowadays gave us some good laughs. Others enjoyed finding a clipping about their ancestors. I tried to keep most clippings between 1880 and 1900 to cover that period of time when the 1890 census burned and it was so hard to find data on our ancestors or where they lived. If you have a comment you would like to tell me, my e-mail address is: [shirleys@sharontelephone.com](mailto:shirleys@sharontelephone.com)

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE BY WCGS

Walworth Co. Probate Record Index - 1848-1939	\$35.00	
CD in pdf and searchable	\$25.00	plus \$1.00 s/h
1857 Walworth Co. Atlas - township maps and index	\$16.00	
1873 Walworth Co. Atlas - maps & Index (soft cover reprint)	\$20.00	
Walworth Co. - Directory of Prairie Farmers & Breeders (soft cover reprint)	\$30.00	
1882 Walworth County Index to History Book	\$30.00	
1912 Walworth County Index to History Book	\$29.00	
Area Research Center UW-Whitewater Resource Guide	\$12.00	
Declaration & Naturalization Papers Vol I \$18.00 Vol 2 & 3 (combined)	\$15.00	
Walworth County Pre-1907 Death Index	\$22.00	
<b>BLOOMFIELD</b> - Hillside Cemetery- Genoa City	\$23.00	
<b>DARIEN</b> - Darien Cemetery	\$22.00	
<b>DELAVAN</b> - Delavan Area Cemeteries (Spring Grove, Old Settlers, St. Andrews, Arboretum and some church burials reprint)	\$14.00	
East Delavan Union Cemetery	\$25.00	
History of Delavan School 1982 - index only	\$18.00	
<b>EAST TROY</b> - Oak Ridge Cemetery	\$18.00	
St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery	\$25.00	
<b>GENEVA</b> - Lake Geneva Area Obituaries (updated through June 30, 2010)	\$25.00	
Pioneer Cemetery	\$15.00	
Union Cemetery- plus some Geneva/Lyons Townships	\$20.00	
<b>LAFAYETTE</b> - White Oak Cemetery	\$ 7.50	
Hartwell-Westville-Sugar Creek Lutheran Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00	
<b>LAGRANGE</b> -LaGrange Pioneers (reprint of 3600 names, full index)	\$27.00	
LaGrange Township Cemeteries	\$10.00	
<b>LYONS</b> - Hudson/Lyons (Old Quaker) / Wija Farm Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00	\$12.00
St. Joseph & St. Killian Catholic Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$10.00	
<b>RICHMOND</b> - Richmond & East Richmond Cemeteries	\$15.00	
<b>SHARON</b> - Oakwood	\$25.00	
<b>SPRING PRAIRIE</b> - Hickory Grove	\$12.00	
German Settlement / Mount Hope / Diener Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$15.00	
<b>SUGAR CREEK</b> - Millard Cemetery	\$20.00	
Hazel Ridge Cemetery	\$15.00	
Mount Pleasant Cemetery (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$15.00	
Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$15.00	
<b>TROY</b> - Little Prairie	\$20.00	
<b>WALWORTH</b> - Walworth Center (Walworth Village listings)	\$20.00	
Brick Church Revised 2007	\$20.00	
Cobblestone, WI/Bigfoot, IL (two different cemeteries in one book)	\$15.00	
<b>WHITEWATER</b> - St. Patrick's Calvary	\$25.00	
Hillside Cemetery	\$18.00	
Unknown Burials	\$12.00	
Index to the Annals of Whitewater	\$12.00	

Shipping and handling as follows: \$6.50 per book

To order these publications, circle the selection(s), make check payable to WCGS and mail to:  
WCGS, PO Box 159, Delavan, WI 53115.

Membership (Jan 1st- Dec 31st) is \$15 individual (\$100 lifetime), \$18.00 family (\$200 lifetime), \$7.50 student

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ SURNAMES \_\_\_\_\_

I do \_\_\_ or do not \_\_\_ give my permission to have my information printed in any WCGS media.

DSTK 1/14

## WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Karen Weston	9601 N. Kyle Dr.	Whitewater, WI	wcgspres@gmail.com
VICE-PRESIDENT	Judy Rockwell	N6619 Grove Rd	Elkhorn, WI	wcgsvpres@gmail.com
SECRETARY	Marilyn Traver	473 E. Geneva St Lot 10	Elkhorn, WI	msearchin@gmail.com
TREASURER	Martha Hay	455 Fellows Road	Genoa City, WI	wcgstreasurerwi@gmail.com
DIRECTOR(S)	Diana Bird Karen Helwig Linda West Dolores Schutt		Harvard, IL Whitewater, WI Lake Geneva, WI Clinton, WI	
OTHERS:	Newsletter Editor: Peggy Schutt <a href="mailto:wcgnewsletter@gmail.com">wcgnewsletter@gmail.com</a> Library Committee: Diana Bird, Judy Rockwell, and Marilyn Traver Historian: Pat Blackmer			

Regular meetings of the WCGS are the first Tuesday of each month at the

**Delavan Community Centre, 826 E. Geneva St., Delavan, WI.**

Library Hours: Matheson Memorial Library, 101 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn, WI- Every Tues. 10-3pm, phone 262-723-9150  
other times by appt - call 262-279-6541

The membership year runs from Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. The newsletter is published bi-monthly.

\*\*\*\*Dues are \$15 (\$100 Lifetime) for an individual, \$18.00 (\$200 Lifetime) for a family, \$25 contributing, \$7.50 student.  
\$5.00 additional per year to receive the newsletter through the mail.

MEMBERS: Want email meeting minutes or not?? Contact Marilyn Traver, [msearchin@gmail.com](mailto:msearchin@gmail.com)

**Visit the Walworth County website and uncover your roots! <http://www.walworthcgs.com>**

Email us at: [societynews@walworthcgs.com](mailto:societynews@walworthcgs.com)

DELAVAN, WI 53115-0159  
P.O. BOX 159

WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY